Matrika #2 @7314
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There is some controversy in both Ceremonial Magick and Wicca as to whether □
the Wand relates to the direction of the East or the South and whether it □
relates to fire or air as an element. I am going to share here what I use and □
what works for me. Others who work differently are more than welcome to share □
their usage.

The way I use the wand in my Magickal working is as the tool for the EAST the □
element of air. I can't PERSONALLY see the fire attribute, as I have problems □
with the idea of a tool relating to an element that can destroy it. Since □
some wands are made of wood and almost ALL of them were until the □
popularization of Crystal work with the adoption by some NeoPagans of Native □
American practises made the metal wand with a Crystal in it the latest thing. □
If I WERE to work with people who used the wand as fire, I would certainly □
used a mettalic and stone wand of this type and NOT a wooden one. Again, this □
is personal taste.

The air element relates to communication, intellectual ideas, Linear Logic, □
Clear and intelligent THINKING, and telepathy. It relates to the concept of □
unity too, in that ALL of us - and all species of life - breathe the same □
atmosphere. (note - I realize the plants use the Carbon Dioxide while we use □
the air, which is why I said ATMOSPHERE)

The wand relates to the suit of RODS in Tarot and vice versa.

The Wand is a MALE tool, like the Athame. The FEMALE tools are the Chalice □
and the Pentacle.

The wand is used to summon the Rulers of the 4 directions and to invoke the □
Deities in casting a circle. In CERTAIN types of Magick it is sometimes also □
used to cast the circle, but it is more common to use the athame for this. □
(or the sword if it is a coven and they have one)

The Wand can also be used when invoking the spirits.

It is particularly helpful at times when wisdom is needed and in invoking the □
spirits before tranceworking where specific information or guidance is □
desired. It is also good for doing this for VERY important divinations when □
they are done in a fully cast circle.

The wand is used in some traditions in a Spring Equinox celebration to create □
a hole in the soil in which seeds, symbolizing people's hopes, are planted - □
obvious fertility symbolism.

The wand can hold a lot of power and be a very special and personal □
instrument.

There are some Witches/Pagans I know who use only the wand and the chalice as □
their tools. Their thoughts on this being that the Pentacle is drawn from □
ceremonial Magick - which is correct - so they want to eliminate it as they □
feel it is necessary FOR THEM to get back to the roots of Wicca/Paganism. □
These people also eliminated the knife/sword because they pointed out that in □
ancient times Wicca was the religion of the Masses and the Peasants - who were □
not allowed to carry weapons. These people use the wand to cast all their □
circles, replacing it for ALL the purposes for which the athame is used.

Their are other groups, most noticably the Community of ISIS and it's inner □
circle the TEMPLE of ISIS in Salem MA., that use the wand for casting the □
circle although they retain the athame - which they seem to use only for □
blessing the chalice in the symbolic re-enactment of the fertility theme □
central to Wicca. (PLEASE NOTE I SAID SYMBOLIC)

These are the major uses of the wand.